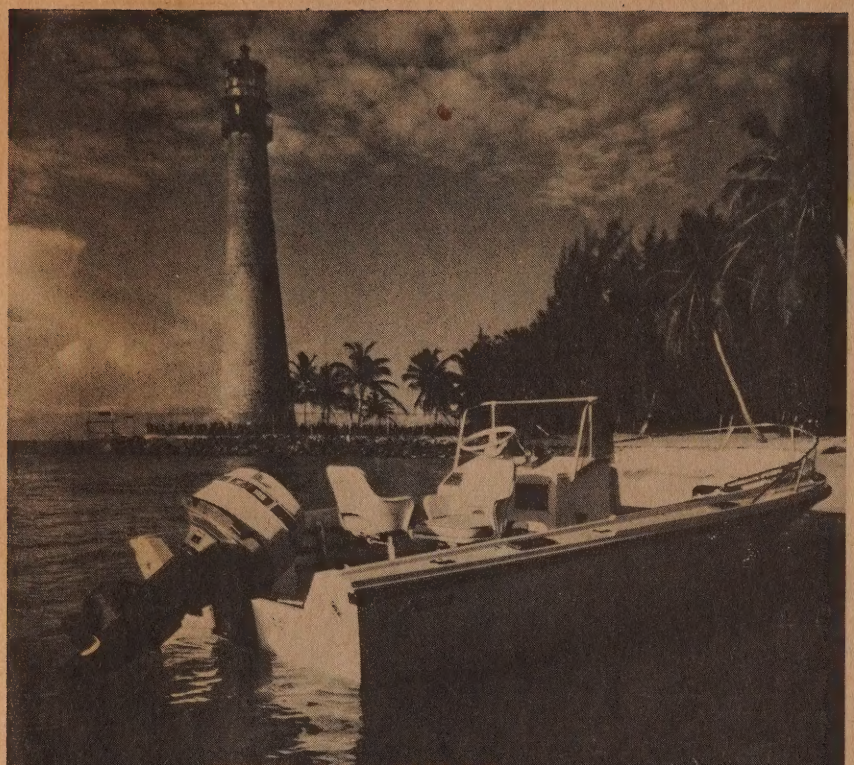
20¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

AUGUST 2nd, ISSUE NO. 29, 1973



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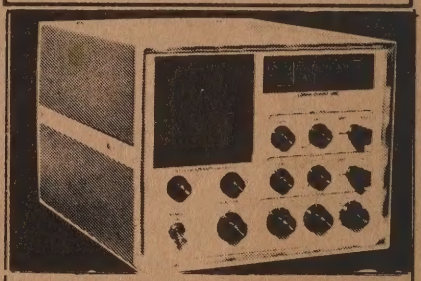

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

VOL. 8 NO. 29 AUGUST 2, 1973

CONTENTS

THE JONES BEACH FISHING PIERS	Herb Buch	8
SANDY HOOK STRIPERS	Ron Onorato	10
COOKING SEA ROBINS GOOD	Bernard Schwartz	12
DON'T THROW THAT CAN	Ludwig Gutwein	13
DUCK PONDS	Don Vetter	14
BASS, BIRDS & BUGS	Fred Guardineer	15
THE COMMON EEL	Frank Berrafato	16

ANNOUNCEMENT TO OUR READERS

Effective this issue, The Long Island Fisherman will be printed on newsprint. There is an acute shortage of 50 lb. offset bond, and until the situation improves we will publish the magazine on whatever paper is available. We hope you will bear with us.

NEWS

Dick Alley — Art Frey — Stu Miller

Pete Barrett — Scott Simons

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ADVERTISING MANAGER: Stu Miller

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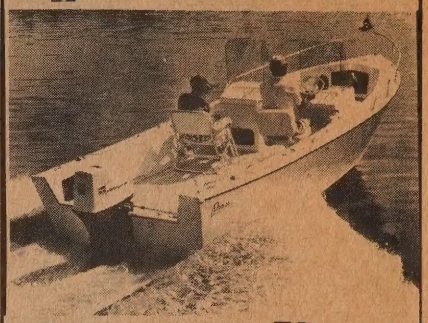
FRONT PAGE PHOTO

Jim Brundage of Deer Park took seven bass fishing from the surf at the south side of Montauk with sandworms. The fish ranged in weight from 12 lbs. to 45 lbs. 6 ozs. The lunker was taken at 4 A.M., July 19, 1973.

pro-line



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NEW UMBRELLA RIG

I am 15 years old and have been fishing since I was able to walk, so I really care about the fish and pollution. I have found a way to save gas and help a little in stopping pollution, too.

I know most fishermen drink beer when they go out, so this is my solution:

You know those pop-top cans of beer? Well, save the rings and tails. Take your umbrella rig and put 10-20 rings in a bunch to substitute for the surgical tubes. Make sure you have a hook in the middle of each bunch, with a little bit of the hook sticking out. You will need a little of extra weight to hold the umbrella rig down under water.

Now, since there is a gas shortage, this will help also. You don't need your engine running to have your rig work nicely in the water. All you need is a tide so you can drift: That's where the metal tails come in.

Since the tails are curved when you take them off the cans, keep them that way because they wiggle in the water when being pulled. If the tails fall off, don't worry because they still wiggle. So now that you've got your rig in the water, out as far as you would when you regularly troll, remember to pull once in a while to attract the attention of those big stripers and blues.

Good luck and help these fish live in a better environment.

Margaret Zulkofske
Jericho, Long Island

Thanks for both your concern for the environment and the new type of umbrella rig. We have two small hopes for the fishermen who try this rig: don't drink all the beer for each rig while you're sitting in the boat; and don't throw those empties overboard. You had enough room in the boat to carry them out, there should still be sufficient space to bring tham back in so they can be properly disposed of.

NETTING BUNKER

I would like to know if it is legal to net mossbunkers commercially in Long Island Sound in the area from Rye to City Island. If it is not legal who do I get in touch with to put a stop to it, as they are completely wiping them out in this area.

Harry Shaefer
Yonkers, New York

The Long Island Fisherman has received numerous letters and telephone calls from people concerned about the concentrations of bunker boats netting these fish, and also food fish such as striped bass and bluefish.

It is legal to commercially net bunker [mossbunker, menhaden, and pogy] in these waters, even though the netters may clean out an area completely, which they do. There is quite a bit of strong feeling regarding these activities, and we at the Fisherman would be very interested in the opinions of our readers on this subject.

So far as the netting of food fish is concerned, any fish so taken must be released. According to a gentleman we spoke to at the Law Enforcement Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation, only three or four food fish are taken per several tons of bunker. Not being on the scene, we can only repeat what we were told; there are, however, a number of people who have complained of the taking of bass and bluefish in large quantities by the commercial men.

Having been involved in an incident in which my boat was nearly run down, and almost swamped, by these men in their hunger to net a particular school, I am not one to give them the benefit of the doubt. I strongly suspect that more than a mere few bass and bluefish are being taken, but proof is another matter.

MORE ON SEA ROBINS

I read in the Long Island Fisherman that one of your readers found out only recently that sea robins are a good eating fish! We have been eating them for years.

They must be skinned. Just like a blowfish. The head and body skin is removed with one operation.

Put flour in a plastic bag and add seasonings such as salt, pepper, a little garlic powder and dry parsley. Place fish in bag and shake them a few times, then fry in about 1 inch of hot oil until golden brown. Delicious! Or, another favorite — Make Italian marinara sauce, (or buy it ready made in a jar), place fish in simmering sauce and serve with spaghetti - excellent!

Hope your readers enjoy sea robins from now on.

Mrs. Roger Loria

Thank you, Mrs. Loria, for your recipes dealing with cooking sea robins.

Never one to pass up a challenge, Bernie Schwartz picked up the gauntlet we threw down when a reader asked if sea robins were good to eat. For fans of Bernie, you'll find his treatment in this issue.

KEEPING SANDWORMS ALIVE

I have seen many letters asking you how to keep sandworms alive for more than a couple of days.

If you put about two inches of slightly damp sand in the bottom of a bucket and some seaweed and keep it cool, your sandworms can be kept in good condition for a week or a little longer.

Dave Beaumont
Greenwich, Conn.

We haven't tried this method of keeping sandworms alive for more than a few days. If any readers try it, let us know how successful it was.

News Releases

PUBLIC NOTICES FROM:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW YORK DISTRICT
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the

proposal will be considered; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. No permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be in the public interest.

No. 7302 — Construction in Mamaroneck Harbor

Application has been made by Robert E. Derecktor, Incorporated, 311 East Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, New York 10543 for a Department of the Army permit to erect concrete support columns in Mamaroneck Harbor, at Mamaroneck, Town of Rye, Westchester, New York.

No. 7303 — Dredging For Supertankers

Application has been made by Seatrain Shipbuilding Corporation, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Building 292, Brooklyn, New York 11205 for a Department of the Army permit to dredge in Wallabout Bay, East River, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Borough of Brooklyn, New York.

No. 7306 — Establishment of 11 Fish Trap Areas

Consideration is being given to the establishment of Fish Trap Areas in Shinnecock, Moriches, Tiana and Quantuck Bays. The areas are proposed for use during the Spring Fish season beginning 15 February and ending 1 June and the Fall Fish season beginning 15 September and ending 31 December.

No. 7310 — Construction in Shinnecock Bay

Application has been made by Mr. Edward Torres, c/o Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada, for a Department of the Army permit to construct a bulkhead, a boat slip, and to fill in Shinnecock Bay, at Quogue, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York.

No. 731 — Construction at Fire Island

Application has been made by Mr. Jerry Ragovoy, 360 East 65th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021, for a Department of the Army permit to construct a bulkhead and fill in Great South Bay, at Ocean Beach, Fire Island, Town of Islip, Suffolk County, New York.

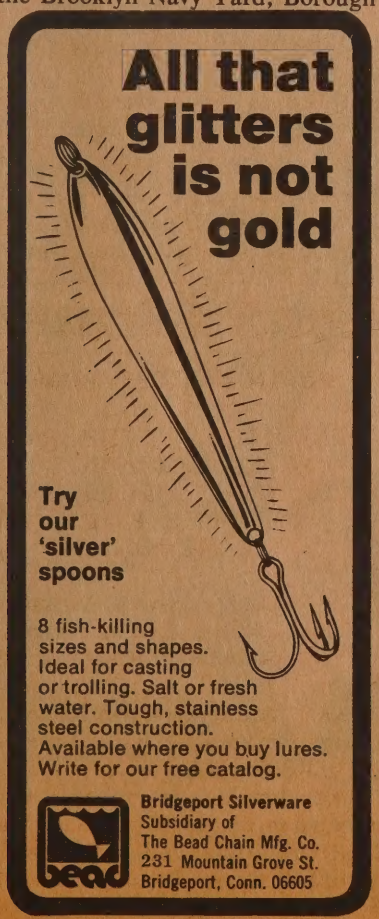
Any criticisms or protests regarding the proposed work should be PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO REACH THE OFFICE LISTED ABOVE prior to 8/13/73 otherwise it will be presumed that there are no objections.

EPA ANNOUNCES OIL SPILL PREVENTION REGULATION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a proposed oil pollution regulation on July 19, 1973.

The proposed regulation is required under terms of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.

The regulation will apply to owners or operators of non-transportable-related facilities that drill, produce, store, refine, process, transfer, distribute or consume oil and which, because of their location, could reasonably be expected to discharge oil into the waters of the United States. This will affect such businesses as oil refineries, industrial users of oil,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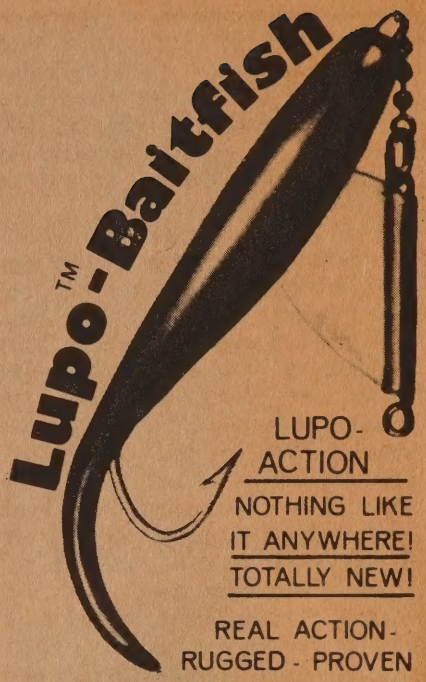

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Excepted are facilities which have buried underground storage of 1000 barrels or less or have aboveground storage of 500 gallons or less of heating oils or motor fuels.

The owner or operator must submit his oil spill prevention control and countermeasure plan to the Regional Administrator of EPA, if the facility experiences a spill of more than 1000 gallons of oil or experiences two spills of oil in any amount within a twelve-month period. The Regional Administrator will review the SPCC Plan; and if he determines that the Plan needs improvement to prevent spills, he may require an amendment to the SPCC Plan and specify the terms of the amendment.

Owners or operators who fail to comply with the regulation would be liable to a civil penalty of up to $5,000 for each day that a violation continues.

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CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

1973 RHODE ISLAND FISHING TOURNAMENTS

August 1-28: Rhode Island Tuna Tournament Rodeo, Galilee.

August 10-13: Hi Neighbor Point Judith Striped Bass & Bluefish Tournament, Galilee.

August 11-13: 3rd Annual County-Wide Fishing Contest for Youth; under 16 years of age; sponsored by Junior Division, Newport County Salt Water Fishing Club, Aquidneck Island.

August 11-13: Roger Williams Billfish & Shark Tournament; 8 a.m.; Galilee.

August 24-26: 2nd Annual Pawtuxet Cove Marina, Cranston.

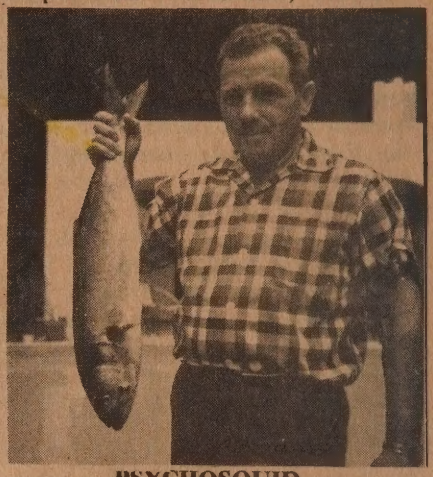
August 29-31: Rhode Island Tuna Tournament "Chum Up"; Galilee.

September 1-3: 16th Annual Rhode Island Tuna Tournament; 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Galilee.

October 5-7: Rhody Fly Rodders 6th Annual Invitational Fly Rod Striper Seminar; Newport.

October 6-14: 11th Annual Rhode Island Striper Tournament; Port O'Call Marina, Newport.

October 19-21: 7th Annual TriState Striped Bass Tournament; Galilee.



PSYCHOSQUID CONTEST WINNER

Dr. Benjamin A. Wolfer, this week's winner of the Sevenstrand Psychosquid Contest. The doctor is shown with one of the first bluefish caught off the North shore of Long Island this season.

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SLEEPING SHARKS

Mexican divers have discovered large pelagic (oceanic) sharks sleeping in caves 65 feet underwater, off the Yucatan Coast in the Caribbean Sea.

The species observed were the blue shark, lemon shark, ridge backed shark and probably the bull shark. All grow to over nine feet long, are fast swimmers, and are known to be dangerous to man. Marine biologists have long believed that sharks of this type never stop swimming except for abnormal situations in captivity.

The sharks were studied and filmed by Ramon Bravo, a Mexican diver and underwater photographer. On a recent diving trip to the site, he was accompanied by Eugenie Clark, professor of zoology at the University of Maryland. Dr. Clark reports their observations in the current issue of Underwater Naturalist, the journal of the American Littoral Society, Highlands, New Jersey.

Although sharks are one of the few fishes that can close their eyes because of a nictitating membrane, the photographs and observations of sleeping sharks indicate they keep their eyes open at that time.

During the sleep state, sharks breathed actively by pumping water over their gills at a rate of 20-28 times per minute. When oceanic sharks swim, they respire by leaving their mouths open and letting water flow in and then out the gill openings without any pumping action.

Bravo, and other divers were able to touch and even gently lift the sharks without drawing reactions. The sharks, however, could be awakened easily with rough handling or by excessive disturbances by nearby divers.

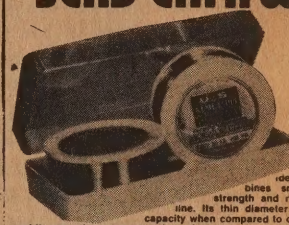
These caves were first discovered by a local fisherman, Carlos Garcia, seven miles east of Isla Mujeres off the eastern Yucatan coast, in an area rich with lobsters and fishes, especially giant groupers. Garcia in turn led Bravo to the spot. Bravo dived on what he believed to be a graveyard where sharks came to die, until he realized that these lethargic sharks could always be awakened and then became active and normal.

Bravo notified Dr. Clark of the phenomenon and invited her to study the sharks last fall, which she did, reporting her findings in the Littoral Society's journal. Accompanying the article are several of Bravo's photographs, the first taken of the oceanic sharks sleeping.

Dr. Clark is a vice president of the Littoral Society and an authority on sharks and rays. She helped found the Cape Haze Marine Laboratory in Florida (now the Mote Marine Laboratory). Currently she is in the Red Sea to study a species of poisonous flounder. She is the author of "The Lady and the Sharks" and has also studied garden eels.

Courtesy of the American Littoral Society, Sandy Hook, Highlands, New Jersey 07732.

SEND 'EM A WIRE.



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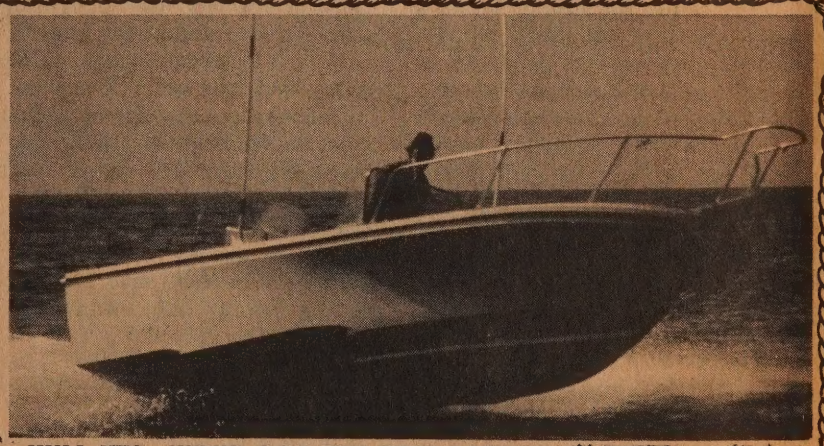

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THE JONES BEACH FISHING PIERS

by Herb Buch

There are many places around Long Island where a casual fisherman may spend some time enjoying nature, and catch a few fish as well. One of my favorite spots, the Jones Beach fishing piers, is accessible to any person who is willing to pay the causeway toll, since it is a part of the New York State park system. This is an asset in these days of limited access to town beaches and parks.

In addition to general accessibility, the piers offer a place where fishermen who cannot cast and children of all ages have as good a chance at the available fish as the expert casters. This does not mean that everyone catches fish. The observant, experimental fisherman will still outfish his neighbors by far, but casting is not a necessity most of the time. Besides that, who can measure a child's joy at pulling in even a tiny flounder, or a crab, or starfish at a safe place which offers rest rooms, refreshment stand, parking space, and even a few picnic tables.

First, let me tell you how to get there. Almost all east-west roads on Long Island cross the Meadowbrook and Wantagh Parkways. Take either of these roads south.

If you take Wantagh Parkway turn right to the piers where indicated by sign.

If you use Meadowbrook Parkway you will also make a right turn, but the road loops under the parkway and you will end up going to the left. This turn is made where the sign indicates Parking Field 10. The turnoff to the piers is indicated by a sign that says Storehouse, Fishing Piers. Ask the man at the toll booth for a free park map, which will show the fishing piers.

After you have arrived you will observe that there are four piers projecting out from the bulkhead toward the channel. The bulkhead and the piers are fenced and children can fish in safety. To the right of the piers is a cove, and on the shore of this cove is a rowboat rental station; a tackle and bait stand is nearby.

The most popular fish caught on the piers are flounders and snappers. The flounders can be caught almost anytime, but they are small and scarce during the summer. The flounder season is usually from October or November to May, with a slow-down during really cold weather. The snappers arrive late in July and may remain till late in October.

Flounders are one of the most popular fish in our area because they are abundant and delicious, no matter how you cook them. You are not likely to catch flounders from the docks in the same large numbers that are taken from boats, but you can get enough for a good meal during most days of the season.

Because they are bottom feeders, the rig for flounders must keep the hooks directly on the bottom. The most common rig uses two hooks, and the sinker weight here varies from one half ounce to two ounces, depending upon the size of your line and the speed of the current. Bait should be worms or clam in small pieces.

One hint that will increase your catch here is to snell your own flounder hooks using lighter and longer leaders than those used on the commercial flounder rigs. I have increased my success by using fifteen pound test leaders as long as eighteen inches. You will notice that some fishermen catch many more flounders than others, even when using the same bait, and this is one of the reasons.

A view from the pier: service pavilion and parking in the background.

Cleaning some small flounders at the cleaning board.

The bulletin board at the refreshment building contains the "Fishing Clinic" schedule.

Flounder fishing is one of the major attractions at the Jones Beach piers.

My second favorite is the snapper, or baby bluefish. When these fish are running the docks become very crowded and you may have to arrive quite early to get a good spot.

I have had my best luck on an incoming tide, and the almost universal bait is a small fish called the spearing. Spearing swarm around the docks during the snapper season, and many fishermen catch their own bait with umbrella nets or screen bag nets which are baited to attract the minnows. Fresh spearing are firmer and seem to catch more fish than the frozen ones that you can buy at bait shops.

The attractions of snapper fishing are many, but for me, the thrill of watching a bobber dance as a snapper plays with the bait is the number one factor. Secondly, for small fish, they will readily do battle on a light rod; fresh water spinning and fly rods are ideal for them. The fish range from four to ten inches in length. Release the smaller ones carefully and keep only what you will eat. These fish are delicious, and after you taste them you will want more. Once in a while a small bluefish in the fourteen or sixteen inch class will be taken, and then you will taste the thrills of fighting a real game fish on your light tackle.

Attach a snapper hook, or a number 4 long shank hook, to the end of your monofilament line, with a bobber three or four feet above it. Place a small weight about a foot above the hook to keep the bait down in the water. Bait with spearing, then let your rig drift out with the tide. Watch your bobber at all times and don't try to hook the fish until the bobber is pulled completely under. Don't forget to reel in your slack line before setting the hook.

Many fishermen specialize in fishing for particular fish on the piers. Fluke fishermen use a rig like a large snapper rig on a heavier rod and reel. They drift out live killies (a hardy variety of minnow) as bait, and it is not unusual to see an occasional six pound fluke taken here. However, the number of fluke taken is usually small, and you will need a long handled net to land any as they rarely can be lifted without flopping off the hook.

Some seasons there will be numbers of kingfish around, and another breed of specialist to pursue them.

Everyone will load up with blowfish when they are abundant, and they are a tasty fish if there ever was one. Also, most people do not know that the sea robins are also good eating. Just be careful not to get stuck when you scale them.

There is a series of lectures on fishing given on Saturday mornings at Jones Beach State Park during the season which can teach you a great deal about these fish and many others. Ask for a schedule at the toll booth, or at the Administration Building. They also have free tide tables.

Along with the fish I have mentioned, regular or occasional visitors include blackfish, weakfish, eels and many others. Sometimes you may run into an unexpected reward, such as the November day - many years ago - when I brought my family out to fish for flounders, but we kept pulling in large sized blue claw crabs. We didn't miss the flounders at dinner that night.

SANDY HOOK STRIPERS

by Ron Onorato

The outgoing tide pushed the big whaler at a moderate rate. The sun was well up over the horizon, and we had yet to taste any action; all the movement that occurred was that of the live mossbunkers swimming on the end of our lines.

Since we were drifting about a half mile off the beach, it was decided that a drift closer to the shore might be productive. The "golf ball" appeared in the background as the engines were shut and another drift was started. The live bunkers were again put into the water in the hopes of suckering a big bass.

The long drift was carrying us off the beach, and we were about to hit the motors when the bunker at the end of my line started to act finicky. A few moments later, line began to peel off the reel rapidly and, after hesitating for several seconds, I put the reel in gear and lifted the rod tip sharply. The big bass that had engulfed the bunker felt the steel and immediately made off for the depths.

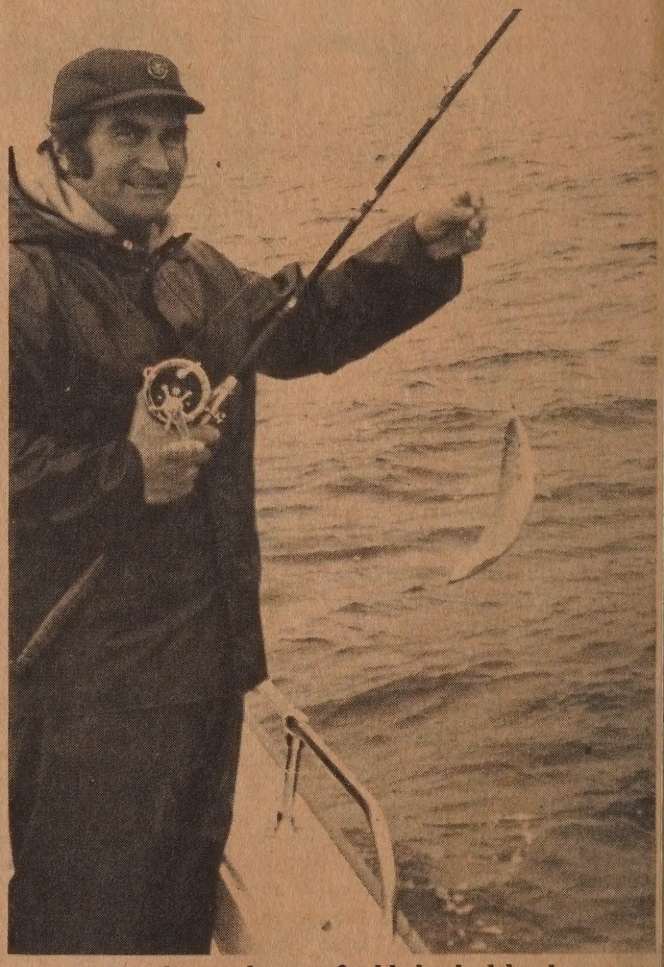
The drag on the 30 pound monofilament was set rather snugly, and the pressure began to show as the fish tired. While the fish was gradually pumped toward the boat, it made smaller and smaller runs. Eventually the fish appeared on the surface: its flanks glittered in the early morning sunlight as the gaff was laid to it. A quick lift, and a bass of about 30 pounds was hoisted over the side. The fish must have been a loner, because that was the only one taken by us that day.

The mere mention of the word Sandy Hook, and the average fisherman envisions masses of big stripers engulfing bunkers or snatching big tubes and spoons. While this may be a little exaggerated, Sandy Hook produces enormous quantities of big bass as the stripers stop here to feed on the vast schools of baitfish before migrating further northward. The arrival of these fish marks the launching of one of the most intensified fishing efforts put forth. Most of these endeavors are well-rewarded, as the chances of hooking and landing a trophy striper in this area is very good, indeed.

The last week in May usually marks the arrival of the first fish. As the beginning of June rolls around, the quantity of bass available increases. Through the month of June, and often into the month of July, the big stripers are actively feeding and are caught in tremendous numbers. As July progresses, the big fish tend to move out of the area, though a few heavyweights are caught the year round.

Sandy Hook is located at the southwestern portion of the New York Bight. A quick glance of any map that covers that area will reveal the whereabouts of Sandy Hook. It is a small pennisula that juts out into the Atlantic, with the Fort Hancock vicinity northernmost, Sandy Hook State Park a little further south, and an area known as the Highlands the southernmost portion of the Sandy Hook region.

On the average weekend in June, it is not unusual to have several hundred boats drifting in the same general vicinity, so catches are usually minimal. If you can sneak a day off during the week, then the chances are greatly improved of catching one, if not several, cow stripers. Most of the boats



Al Fleischman shows a freshly-hooked bunker.

that fish the Hook drift off the area of the state park. A large white dome often referred to as the "golf ball" is used by many as a shore range. When fishing this area, the fish can be right in on the beach, or they can be offshore. The most successful way to fish this area is to drift inshore first and, if you fail to connect with fish, move a bit offshore and continue trying.

I constantly mention the word drift when describing how to fish this area because this is the best method to use, and the first stop on any Sandy Hook trip is made to obtain the bait. The bait is usually fresh mossbunker or herring, and there are several ways of obtaining it.

The easiest way is to buy it fresh from the pound nets that operate on a daily basis. However, since the nets are usually drawn early in the morning, you'd better get there before dawn if you expect to get any bait.

Another method calls for the gillnetting of your own bait. Long gillnets are sold and used expressly for the purpose o

getting bunkers. With either the aid of a depth recorder or by looking for the telltale flips of the bunker, the long net is laid out. After waiting for several minutes, the bunker net is drawn in. If there were any fish in the area, they usually get entangled in the net and are trapped. Once scooped from the net, care must be taken to insure that the fish do not die.

The best way to keep them is to put several bunker in a large, plastic garbage pail and circulate fresh oxygen through by means of an aerator. If one isn't available, then the water must be changed every few minutes to give the bunkers a good supply of oxygen.

I have found an eight foot, medium action codfish rod quite adequate to handle the pound-sized baits that are used. It also has enough backbone to handle the long run of a cow bass. Thirty pound test is as heavy as you need go when fishing around the Hook; just make sure that you have several hundred yards of it on your reel.

The next step comes in placing the bunker on the hook. The hook most commonly used is a 3/0 or 4/0 treble with needle sharp points. One hook is placed through the upper lip of the bunker. In addition, some anglers favor placing a 7/0 or 8/0 Sproat hook behind the dorsal fin. Either way, handle the bunker with care.

Gently place the bunker in the water and slowly peel off several yards of line. Keep doing this until about a hundred feet or so of line is out, then stop the flow. At all times keep the reel in free spool.

The bunker will be swimming and moving at the end of your line. If the bunker makes short, sudden runs, that usually means that a bass is sizing him up. You will know for sure when a bass takes the bunker by the way in which the line empties from the reel.

It is critical to let the bass run and swallow the bait, and it may take from 2 to 10 seconds before you put the reel in gear. Use your judgement; it is better to wait a little longer than not long enough.

After waiting the predetermined time, put the reel in gear and lift the rod tip sharply. The battle is now on, and with the proper equipment, you should come out the victor. Don't keep the drag so tight that the fish can break the line, but don't keep it so loose that it can clean the spool, either.

When bunkers are not available, then trolling is an effective way to catch bass. The most popular lures are the big bunker spoons or long surgical tubes that are fished with wire. However, trolling is often fruitless when the bass are on their bunker kick.

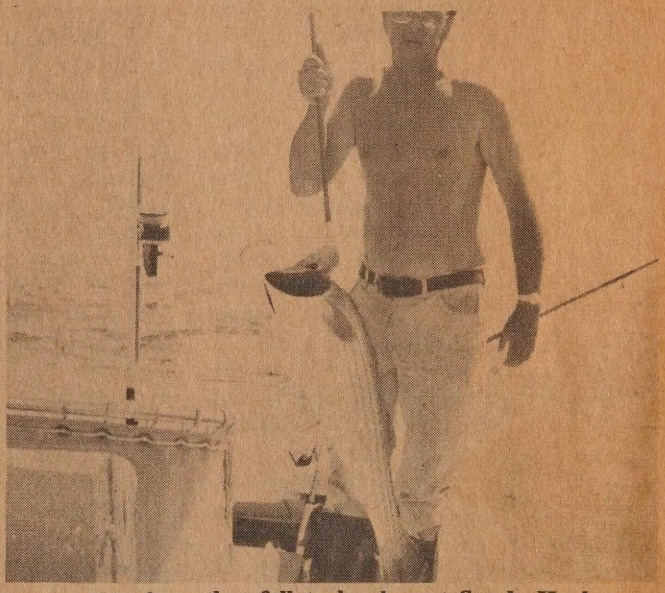
If you plan to fish bunker, you will have to select a spot and judge the drift by means of the tide and wind. Once you have established these parameters, don't wait for conditions to change — start drifting. Remember that there are other boats in the area, and the fishermen may have several hundred feet of line out. Trollers should also keep this fact in mind, and should not get too close to boats that are drifting.

I have found the outgoing tide, when occurring during the early morning, to be the best tide when fishing this area. Much of the bait from the upper regions is carried downward by the outgoing tide, and for some reason, the bass generally go off their feed when the sun gets too high in the sky.

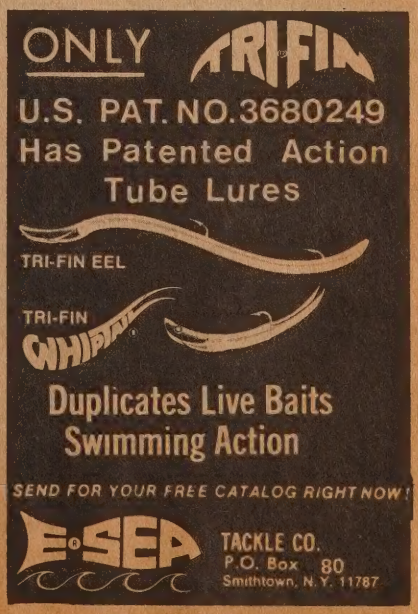
A depth recorder will assist in locating the fish at times. The paper recorder will mark tiny lines on the chart, and these usually indicate that fish are in the area.

If you long for a trophy striper, and have been unlucky in your quest, try Sandy Hook. If you own your own boat there is no real problem. If you do not, you can charter one of the many fine boats that daily ply the waters of that region. One way or the other, Sandy Hook bass fishing is tops.

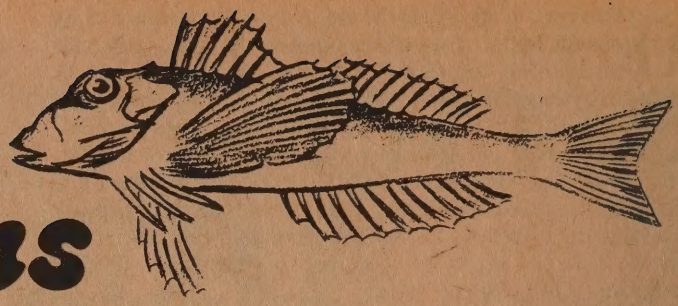
George Olliver leans into a good fish.



Another bass that fell to bunker at Sandy Hook.



Cooking Sea Robins Good



by Bernard Schwartz

Remember, in cooking sea robins always clean them first and clean them good. This is very important for good eating. An uncleaned sea robin tastes really "yeechy" (my daughter's word).

I'm sure this is a good way to start this article because it's best to clean your fish as soon as possible. I also take it for granted that you have kept your fish well-chilled and out of the sun. Oh! You stopped and placed them neatly on the dock in the warm (hot) afternoon sun? Of course, entrails and all, while your spouse or friends took pictures. Don't forget, everybody - have a cold beer or two while you all admire the fish. Great! Now to cook and eat them.

Well, I like sea robins as boiled fish. Don't stop, read on; you might be surprised.

I really can't honestly say this is the best way to eat them but it's the only way I have tried. One friend of mine (who refused to let me use his name) likes them filleted and fried in butter. Personally, I think he likes the taste of butter because that's the only way he likes fish - fried in butter.

Some years ago while fluke fishing I ran into a sea robin heaven. The fish larder being lean at the time, I decided to take some home and surprise my mother. (I was rather young and I catered to my mother instead of to my wife in those days.)

I dressed the fish by scaling them, cutting heads, tails and fin bones out and brought them home. My father, a great devote of boiled fish (pike, pickerel, carp), had just asked mom to make some. Following her basic recipe - and embellishing upon it somewhat - I've come up with this:

Use a pot large enough to hold your fish with about one or two inches of water over them. The less water you use the easier it will jell into cold aspic.

Stop! Don't put your fish in and start boiling them. First obtain the things you will need, which are: fresh soup greens such as parsley, parsnips, carrots, celery, etc. (the standard package you buy at the vegetable market); fish, quantity really unknown, but let's say six cleaned, average sized sea robins, if there is such a thing; potatoes, according to how fat you like to be, but let's say four or five average ones; salt, pepper and garlic; a few small onions or a large one cut into quarters wouldn't hurt either.

Needless to say, wash, clean and get the vegetables ready while the water is heating up. Cut the carrots and celery into good sized chunks and put them into the water. Throw in three or four cloves of garlic (let your conscience be your guide), and at the same time add the onions. Add salt and pepper according to taste (I spice rather heavily) and let cook a few minutes. Add potatoes - peeled and cut into larger-sized chunks than the carrots and celery.

Let this gourmet's delight cook until just about done, then lower the heat and gently add the fish. The water should stop boiling. Raise heat and when water boils again (in about five minutes) shut off the heat. Taste soup and see if it needs more spices.

The fish will finish cooking in the hot soup. Try not to overcook them so that the flesh cooks away from the bones and breaks up in the soup.

Serve hot with horseradish sauce. Concord grape wine mixed with club soda on the rocks is great with it. I know, red wine with fish is verbotten. Also baloney. Somehow or other the hot fish-horseradish, boiled potatoes, wine (plenty) and tossed salad tastes just great!

A very good hot day's dinner is cold boiled fish with the jelled soup over it. Combine this with white horseradish sauce, fresh rye bread and butter, sliced tomato salad with oil, lemon juice, salt, pepper, oregano, parsley and garlic sprinkled liberally over it. Oh, yes. Now the white wine, or at least a light rose. Chilled, of course.

Another excellent fish for this type of meal is fresh ling. In fact, I like ling better than sea robin, and I go out of my way when ling are in season to get some for my pot. Ling are especially perishable though and should be cleaned immediately. I generally cut the head and the whole belly away at once. Scaling is very easy, so this can be done later without much trouble.

Yours for good health, good fishing and good eating.

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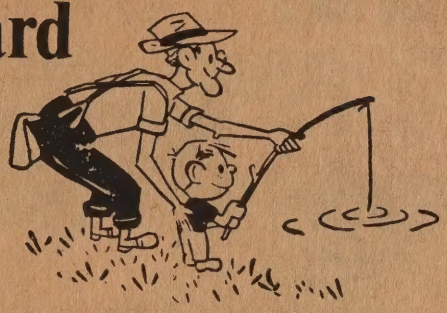
Don't Throw That Can Overboard Unless You Want Your Grandson To Catch It



by Ludwig Gutwein

While fishing, the fisherman is never confronted by the problem of what to do with the garbage. Whether he is on the beach or in a boat, if he has garbage at hand it will usually find itself in the water. The ocean can easily swallow up the garbage that a few million fishermen throw in.

The question now arises, what happens to it once it is in the water? We usually dismiss the thought by thinking that in a few days the dumped trash will decompose or rust, and that'll be the end of it. A recent article in a science magazine points to a different conclusion.

In a recent issue of **Scientific American**, an article told of the sinking of an experimental deep-sea submarine. In 1968, the submarine "Alvin" was launched in the Atlantic, near Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. A hatch was accidentally left open, and the submarine sank in 5000 feet of water. It was raised after spending ten months on the bottom and, upon examination, several astounding facts were discovered.

Left on board the submarine when it sank was a workman's lunch, consisting of a Thermos of bouillon, a bologna sandwich and two apples. After ten months, the most perishable item, the bouillon, was still potable. The sandwich, although soaked by the water, was still fresh looking. The apples had a pickled appearance, but the juice had the same acidity as fresh apples.

Scientists were, of course, astonished to find this food unspoiled after ten months on the ocean floor. They tested this discovery by anchoring pure organic compounds, innoculated with bacteria, on the ocean floor. These were left there for a period of from two to five months, after which they were raised and examined. What they found was that the combination of very cold ocean water and the high pressure slowed the rate of decay 100 to 600 times. This indicated that even bacteria finds this combination inhospitable. The scientists concluded that deep ocean areas were not appropriate for dumping organic waste.

I believe, however, that their study has far greater meaning, especially to fishermen. For instance, to a greater or lesser degree, the conditions of the experiment are evident throughout the oceans of the world. In codfish depths of 100 to 300 feet of water, the bottom temperature is quite cold and the pressure is considerable. Even in 30 feet of water, the pressure is double that of the surface; the temperature some degrees colder. Therefore to a greater or lesser degree the reduced rate of decay should be present throughout the oceans.

An experiment to determine this lower rate was performed on organic substances. This, however, leaves the question open of the effect on inorganic materials, such as metals, plastics, etc. It would require similar experimentation with such inorganic materials to answer such a question, but there is the possibility that the decay rate may be slowed down similarly.

If this is truly the case, those beer cans may not break down as quickly as we would like to believe: in sufficiently deep water, they could be lying on the bottom for quite a number of years. So, before you throw that next one overboard, think about it. Do you really want your grandson to catch it?

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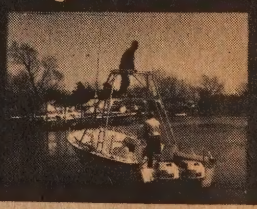

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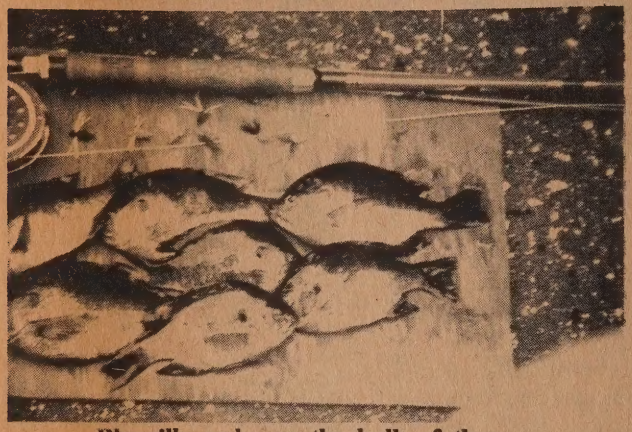
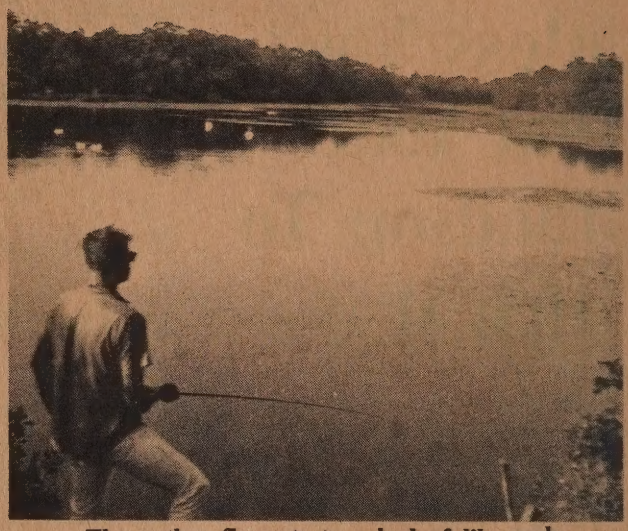
DUCK PONDS

by Don Vetter



Bluegills make up the bulk of these pond's fish populations.



The author fly-casts to a bed of lily pads.

Long Island is dotted with countless little ponds. Take a leisurely drive some quiet Sunday afternoon in the summertime, and you're almost bound to come across one or more. You see cars parked about them as families, dressed in their Sunday best, foregather to pass a peaceful hour. Lovers stroll hand in hand along adjacent paths, oblivious to the world at large. Children laugh merrily as they throw bread crumbs to the ever-present white, domestic ducks (and perhaps a free-loading mallard or two), which always seem to inhabit these potholes. Dragonflies hum lazily along above the water's surface, while songbirds celebrate their freedom in sweet trills. The setting sun casts a golden glow over the still surface of the pond, and embelishes the scene with a special, pastoral beauty in the approaching evening.

What interest (aside from the aesthetic) does this little panorama present to the fisherman? Outside of a few small boys dangling earthworms for pumpkinseeds, bluegills, bullheads, carp, or what have you, angling is not very much in evidence. Then what is a fully grown fisherman, such as yours truly, doing here setting up a fly rod? Though Vetter is well known as an overgrown 12 year old in many quarters (and I readily admit to a willingness to fish anywhere, for just about anything that swims), angling in some of these ponds is not quite as ridiculous as it might appear at first glance.

There is one such pond on Maple Avenue in Smithtown, for example, which produced a one pound, eight and a half ounce bluegill for me some years back. That is a pretty big 'gill to slurp a popping bug, anywhere north of the Mason-Dixon Line; some of these ponds can provide amazingly good panfishing. If you don't mind horning in amongst the youthful, bobber-watcher type anglers, you can enjoy some interesting, if unspectacular, fishing amid the quacking ducks and Sunday strollers.

Although you're liable to run into anything from a displaced bass to a lean, lurking chainsides, the bulk of the piscatorial population is liable to be composed of members of the sunfish family, pumpkinseeds, and their larger, darker colored cousins, the bluegills. To get the maximum sport, and for convenience in casting amidst low-hanging branches, I now use a six and one half foot fly rod, with an equally diminutive single-action reel, and a WF5F baby bug taper line. Since the size of the various cork and plastic-bodied poppers, sponge rubber spiders and the like, which produce best on these waters, ranges from small to tiny, wind resistance presents no problem, and a double taper (DT) or even a level (L) fly line would probably serve nearly as well as the weight-forward taper.

Walking along the marshy margin to a more remote portion of the pond (and flushing an occasional frog in the process), I can hear the characteristic slapping sound of surface-feeding bluegills clearly in the hush of the late afternoon. Music from someone's portable radio drifts across the still water and mingles with the muted sounds of a child's laughter as I reach my chosen spot on the far side of the pond.

An inviting gap in the trees allows for an easy back cast as I work line through the guides. The little popper drops gently at the edge of the lily pads, and as the rings fade away, a wary old bluegill fins out from beneath the pads to inspect the offering. After due consideration, the bug passes muster as something edible, and he takes it with a deliberate slurp. The light rod bows to the pressure of the little, slab-sided gamester as I strip line to bring him to shore.

Those who lump bluegills with the rest of assorted sunnies as "kid's fish" are really missing something, as these little fellows can put up quite a battle; in fact I rate them higher than bass, size for size, to say nothing of their delectability as a table fish. Our southern brethren have no such prejudice and hold "brim" (as they refer to bluegills) in considerable respect, whether at the end of a line or rolled in cornmeal and deep fried.

Continued on page 19

BASS, BIRDS & BUGS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

BIG STRIPERS ARE OFTEN CALLED "BULLS" BUT BIOLOGISTS SAY ALL BASS OVER 25 LBS. ARE FEMALES. MALES DIE EARLY, USUALLY BEFORE THEIR 12TH YEAR AND SELDOM REACH THIS WEIGHT. BUT FEMALES LIVE 25 YEARS OR MORE - AND SOME WEIGHING 100 LBS. HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN. SPORT FISHERMEN, HOWEVER, HAVE LANDED VERY FEW AS MUCH AS 70 LBS.

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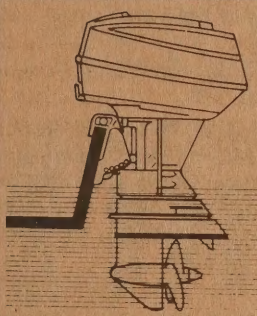
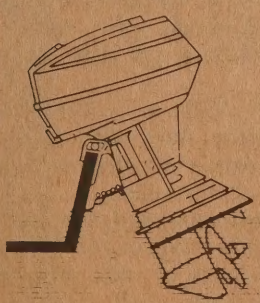
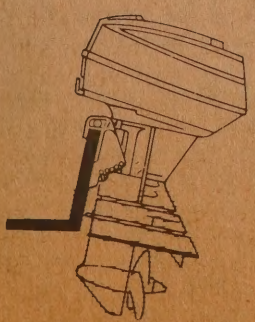
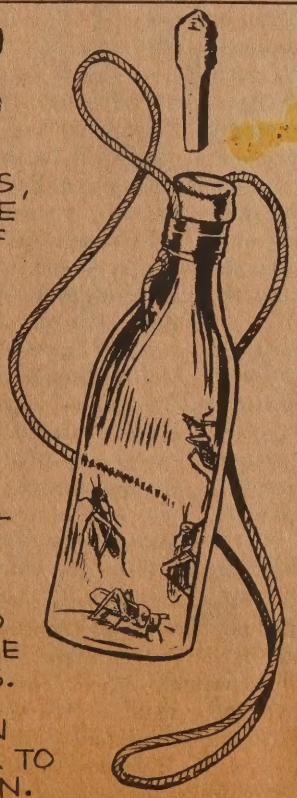


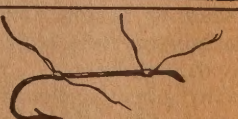




Top: Outboard is correctly installed with propeller thrust straight forward for maximum efficiency. Center and Bottom: Lower unit is too close or too far away from transom. The result will be erratic performance and poor handling. Courtesy Evinrude Motors.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO CATCH GRASSHOPPERS, YOU HAVE ONE OF THE BEST BAITS FOR TROUT, BASS AND PANFISH. A SMALL POP BOTTLE CAN BE USED TO CARRY THE HOPPERS. CUT THE WOODEN STOPPER TO LET AIR IN.

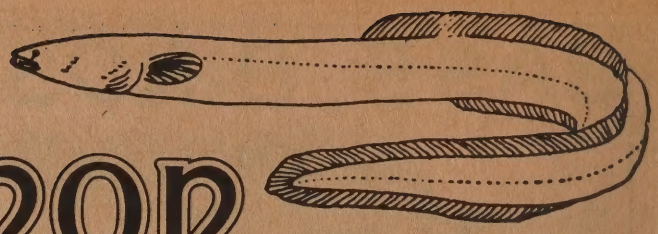




HOPPER HOOK

WITH HOPPER ATTACHED

The Common Eel



by FRANK BERRAFATO

The common eel, scientifically known as Anguilla rostrata (snouted eel), is an omnipresent dweller of varied waters. Although it has a predilection for mud and weed, the eel can be readily caught off bridges, piers, docks, jetties, surf, inlets, bays, rivers and streams.

Painted in a dark olive color, eels are yellowish on the sides and sometimes silvery or whitish below, and are scientifically classified as teleostomous fish (jawed and bony), possessing an elongated body decorated with long dorsal and anal fins. Small gill openings are found at the side near the head.

Mucus covers an eel's entire body, making him difficult to grasp. It is a known fact that the Cherokee Indians, especially when engaging in competitive sports, applied eelskins to their bodies in an effort to become "as slippery as an eel."

The most common method of capture is by hook and line. Any angler who has fished the bottom for flounder, fluke, or porgies has probably come into contact with the slippery, slimy eel. He has a fairly large mouth along with a good appetite, and sometimes plays the role of a scavenger. Worms, killies, spearing, crabs, and even frogs make up his diet. He has a tendency many times to turn up in crab traps.

Disdained by many anglers because of his ability to tangle and mess up fishing lines, he is a scrappy fighter on light tackle and a genuine favorite with the youngsters. Since he is an important and excellent food fish both in Europe and the United States, more sophisticated methods of capture are employed.

Eels can be caught by using eel spears (gigs or tridents) and eel pots. Eel spears are used in shallow water at night; with the aid of a powerful flashlight or gasoline lantern, eels can be gigged from the bottom in the darkness.

Eel pots consist of a wire basket with a funnel-shaped entrance composed of flexible rods converging toward a point, so that the eels can easily force their way through to get at the bait, but cannot escape.

Rachael Carson, in her excellent book entitled **Under the Sea Wind** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1968), relates an interesting episode about the use of a gill net in a small estuary where the male eels lived. (Note: Female eels swim further up the tributaries while the males wait for them at the mouths of rivers for the fall spawning migration to the sea.) A net was put across this particular estuary, trapping migratory roe shad, and slowly killing the fish by suffocation.

According to Miss Carson, the eels in this particular area lived partly by their own but were also robbers who plundered the fishermen's gill nets when they could. Their keen senses caught the taste of fish blood which diffused slowly through the water as the gilled shad struggled to escape. They followed the taste trail through the waters to the net and ate the roe shad, leaving just a bag of skin, with sometimes an eel or two inside.

Eels can be caught in devices similar to gill nets when they start their annual migration to the sea. A V-shaped fence or net (weir) is set up across an appropriate stream or river, with a basket placed in a small opening at the center, into which the eels are guided by the leads. The weir is destructive and outlawed in many areas since it is efficient in killing shad and other fish, besides the sought-after eels.

The eel has a definite spawning pattern. There is an autumn migration of adult eels from river to sea, and in the spring there is the appearance of small eels (elvers) swimming toward river mouths. They migrate inland along fresh water streams after the first year and distribute themselves throughout every accessible body of water.

The females travel the farthest inland, and may remain in fresh water for many years before returning to the deep waters off south and southwest Bermuda where spawning takes place. Both male and female die at sea after the first breeding season.

Eels appear frequently in folklore. Perhaps it is due to their unique shape, widespread availability, their existence since ancient times, or their ability to sometimes come out of the water at night and crawl on the mud banks.

In Sir James Frazier's book on mythology and religion, **The Golden Bough**, he relates that certain tribes of people in the Philippines regarded the eels as souls of their ancestors. Japanese legend has it that eels were really dragons in disguise. In Madagascar it was believed that eels represented the reincarnation of the lowest class of the population, while the leading members became boa constrictors, and the middle class, crocodiles.

Eels are valuable members of Long Island's marine community; smaller ones can be used as bait for big striped bass or bluefish, and their human food value is high.

As a small boy I can remember my grandfather skinning the live eels at home, and how astonished I was at the sight of the eel pieces jumping in the frying pan (I later found out that this was caused by muscle contraction). A favorite recipe was to bake them in tomato sauce, along with onions, salt, pepper, basil, and oregano. A tasty meal from a common fish.

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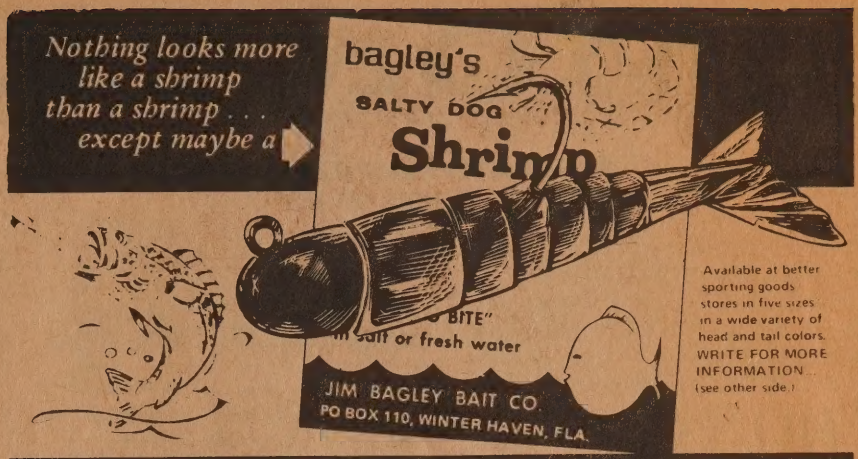

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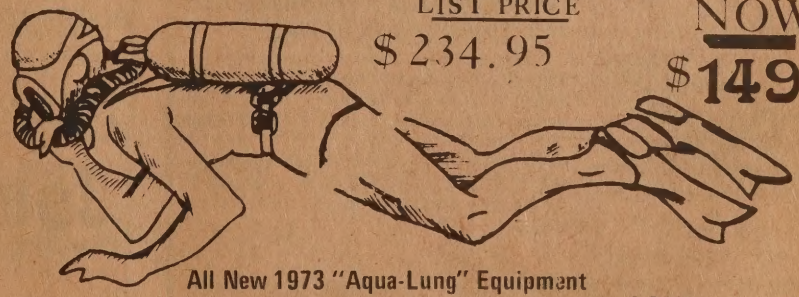

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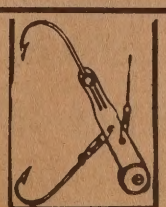

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WEAKFISH INSURANCE

DUCK PONDS

Continued from page 14

Distinguished from other members of the sunfish family by his black "ear" flap, blue gill covers and dark coloration, the bluegill shares many things in common with his relatives.

Typical of all sunfish, bluegills have tiny mouths which govern the size of the lure best employed: poppers and other bugs should be tied on hooks no larger in size than #6. While wet flies may be used to good effect, 'gills take surface bugs so readily that it's a shame to fish subsurface when topwater is so much more fun. If you do opt for the wets, a #8 Black Gnat pattern will outproduce the traditional, brightly hued, panfish flies two to one.

When fishing a surface bug, it is well to remember that bluegills are wary of too much motion; the slightest of twitches, or even the bug at rest, will provide the most takers. The bluegill is very deliberate in his take; it's almost impossible to react too slowly to a strike. If you find you're not hooking many of your takers, the odds are you're striking too fast.

Along the edges of lily pad beds, and open pockets of water amid the greenery, are the places to cast to. You will often be frustrated as you hear the sound of bluegills feeding deep within the confines of a vast lily pad bed, and impossible to reach. There is nothing much to be done in such a situation, save sit back and wait in hopes that the feeding activity will spread out to the fringes, where you can get at them. The weeds provide natural cover from predators, and most bluegills are loath to venture from the protection they provide; hence the best action will invariably occur at the margins of the weeds, and pockets therein.

For those who can overcome any natural reluctance to intrude upon the gatherings which these duck ponds attract on weekends, some worthwhile fishing may await. One word of caution: those ever-present duck feathers can be quite a nuisance, clinging to line-dressing, clogging snake guides, and otherwise proving pestiferous.

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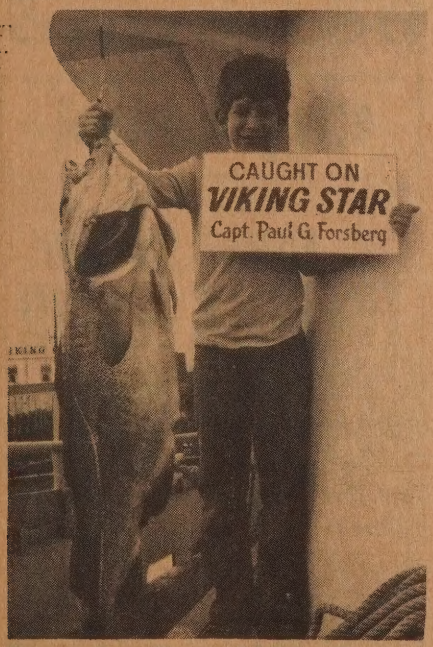
South Shore Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Bud Dorman of the Viking Skipper called in to report the porgy fishing in the Gardiners Island area is nothing short of fantastic. The porgies are ranging in size from ½ to 3 lbs. and they are plentiful. High hook on Saturday was Jeff Breslow with 72 porgies, and on Sunday the high hook was Harvey Geller with 116 porgies and 3 blackfish.

Mrs. Glas of the Hel-Cat Fleet called to to report that both the Hel-Cat and the Helen II fished the Race for blues. The fathometer chart showed that there are loads of fish. They are fishing with herring and this keeps the fish with the boat. On one drift of two hours so many fish were caught that everyone was exhausted. One man would not give up and he had over 40 fish.



Here we have 9 year old Brian Rattner with a 47 lb. cod caught aboard the Viking Star.

Capt. Larry Keller of the Jean Three says he is fishing the Southwest Ledge for bass and blues. The bass are running from 15 to 20 lbs. Plenty of fish are being taken on both the half day and inshore charters.

NOYAC

Barbara of the Noyac Marina called

Click Eastman and Hans Brawn hold 46 and 52 lb. cod caught aboard the Peconic Queen II.

in to say that on Monday Mike Albert of Brooklyn and Bill Fales and Billy, Jr. caught 1 to 3 lb. weakfish at the Monastery fishing with squid. Eighty weaks were caught, with Billy, Jr. getting 23. Saturday saw another group with a good catch of 75 weaks taken on squid. Fred Bubak, Bob Williams and Pops, all from Queens, caught these weaks. The Jim Flynn's Sportsman Club from Hempstead did well on weaks and porgies.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the Promised Land Fishing Station said that the porgies are coming in from ½ to 2 bushels a boat. These porgies are going to 2 lbs. They were running 2½ lbs. off Cartwright. Art said the best fishing was off Hicks Island. Some sea bass

Five year old Greg Lee landed his first weakfish. Greg caught the 3 lb. weak in Shinnecock Bay while fishing with a neighbor, Rubin Marcardo, aboard the "El Rio."

were mixed in with the porgies. Fluke fishing is consistent east of Cartwright and these fish range from shorts to 8 pounders.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows, Sr. of the Capt. Clark II called to report that Joseph Porterfield was high hook on Saturday with 67 porgies, 9 weaks and 4 kings. The weaks ran to 3½ lbs.

Capt. Clark Bellows, Jr. of the Capt. Clark I reported the Rev. Elliot Sloane was high hook with 74 porgies, 11 weaks and 9 kings.

The wrecks at Robins Island and Nassau Point are the spots and the trio of worms, clam and squid turns the trick in the bait department.

HAMPTON BAYS

Bradley's Fishing Station reported

Bo Krigel, 6 years old, caught this 11 lb. 6 oz. fluke just west of the bridge. His grandpa, Andrew Stralkus helped net it. Squid was the bait. Photo by Tony's Fishing Station.

that there are plenty of weaks, porgies and kingfish. These fish are being caught just west of the canal at the Girl Scout camp.

Three Aces Fishing Center reported that the fog over the weekend kept many of the boats from going outside. Most of the fishing was for fluke at the Coast Guard Station and at the inlet.

MORICHES BAY

The open boat Alma is catching fluke at the inlet. There are 3 or 4 keepers a man and these fish are of good eating size.

Chet of B & B Tackle had a list of fish which anglers can go for. Blues

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Jack's★Starstream★ BIG BLUES

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6:30 am

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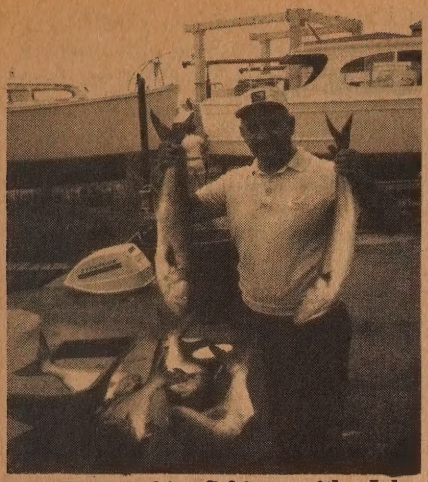
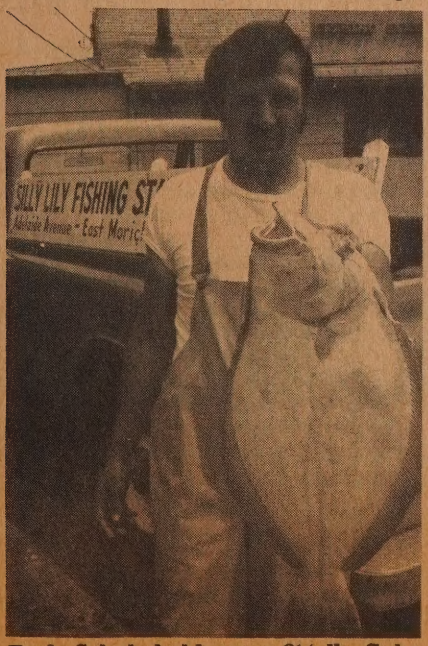


Ed Pietrowski, fishing with John Padula of Long Island City on their boat "I Got It" caught these bluefish just outside Moriches Inlet. Alou Eels and umbrella rigs did the trick.

are on the outside of the inlet. Weakfish are there for the sharpies. School bass are on the flats, with small white or chrome poppers and the Tri-Fin lure doing the taking. Last but not least, snappers are showing. Chet also related that Capt. Jim Haney of the Blue Jay, along with Roger Royalpy, Ed Grain and Joe Gregory made a fine shark catch. A 269 lb. tiger shark, 160 lb. mako, another small mako and a couple of brown sharks were all caught on a Penn International 4/0 reel filled with 30 lb. test line. It took Joe Gregory three hours and fifty minutes to get the tiger shark to the boat.

Cerullo Bros. reported that Ralph



Rudy Schule holds up a 9½ lb. fluke caught at Buoy 38 out of the Silly Lily Fishing Station.

Kuhland came in with a 16¾ lb. fluke. The fluke was taken on the outgoing tide in the new cut on a killie-squid combo. It was also reported that some snappers are around and flounders are at Buoy 32.

Mary Skidmore of Skidmore's Fishing Station says the fluke are getting bigger. She wants to remind all anglers that some big fluke were caught, however, only those caught by boats rented from the Fishing Station Association are eligible to enter their contest. Striped bass to 8 lbs. are being caught at the Elbow and the Coast Guard Station. zthe Tri-Fin lure and the "Talking Popper" are taking these fish.

MASTIC BEACH

Fluke are active in the channels of Buoys 21 to 25, says Mark at Keenan's Fishing Station. The fluke are picking up in size and quantity. Weakfish are at Buoys #17 to #19. They are running to 4 lbs. Try taking these weaks on a Hopkins. Snapper blues were trolled by Mark at the Smith Point Bridge and he says they are in the canals. Crabs are of a nice size, mainly near Pattersquash Creek. Mark reported seeing some of from seven to 10 inches across.

SAYVILLE

Kingfish in abundance, weakfish to 5 lbs., school blues of less than 2½ lbs. and blue claw crabs. This great fishing is taking place off the Browns River Jetty and the Buoy #30 and #31 area, extending as far as two miles south. Richard Ferris caught just under 50 weaks near Buoy #30 while Fred and Otto Bezler caught over 200 kingfish off the Browns River Jetty. Fred and Otto chummed with bunker chum and baited with squid. A lot of these fishermen are getting a dozen or so blue claw crabs while fishing for other fish. Crabs are in 7 to 10 feet of water and also in Nicholls Bay. Nets or a crab trap baited with a hunk of fish will have them coming to you.

CAPTREE

Capt. Joseph reports fluking continues to be good. Bluefish are right near the beaches, about a ½ hour from the dock. These fish are big.

The Anna M III is staying with the fluke fishing and continues to get good catches for customers, reports Mrs. Mahr.

The Speedy V reported that night blues are hitting best. Day bluefishing is a little spotty. Capt. Speedy's day

Pattie Litwin, daughter of Capt. Ben Litwin, with a 17½ lb. bluefish which she caught July 17 about 8-10 miles south of the Fire Island Inlet.

trips during the week seem to produce a little better than on the weekends.

The Captree Queen reported good bluefishing over the weekend, chumming. The fluke fishing is fair to good on weekdays.

The Capt. Rod reported good fluking, with a few fish in the 7 to 10 lb. class. The blues tend to be spotty but they are of good size.

The Capt. Richie is also hanging in with the fluke and he reports the catches are fair to good. An occasional doormat is taken.

Capt. Bob Potafio of the charter boat Yankee had good bluefishing at the Whistle Buoy Friday night. On Saturday, the good ship Yankee sailed west in the fog, where the blues were a little more difficult to load up on. They finally were located and taken south southwest of the inlet in 70' of water. On Sunday, the Yankee found blues off Cherry Grove. Capt. Bob advises those planning a chopper charter to book a night trip, as results seem to be better then.

BABYLON

Mario at the American Sportsman Center said that bluefish are at the inlet. There are weakfish in the bay during the day and they come into the canals at night. The weaks are running 3 to 4 lbs. Good crabbing is taking place by the Robert Moses Bridge and on the flats. Eels are also on the flats.

Walter Schmidt at the Babylon Fishing Station says that the crabbing is good. Some snappers are available but they are not plentiful yet. Weakfishing is productive at Heck-

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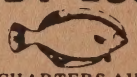

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scher and east of the Captree Bridge. Salty Dog lures and squid is the incher for these fish. Fluke are ilable at Snake Hill and Dickerson annel and also from the lighthouse the inlet. Walter says to remember that he can only tell you what has happened and no one can predict the future fishing catches.

LINDENHURST

John Schaefer of Charlie's Bait & Tackle said that there were no tuna caught over the weekend offshore, however, the bluefishing there is excellent and keeps the offshore trollers and chummers contented. Crabbing is excellent throughout the bay. Weakfishing is holding its own.

Capt. Bill Hoffman of the Sea Horse is fishing the Fire Island Inlet area for fluke and he is coming in with some healthy catches. Over the weekend quite a few fluke up to 9 lbs. were taken.

AMITYVILLE

Dennis Leonick of North Babylon came into George Combs Tackle Shop and weighed a gutted fluke that went 11¾ lbs. The fluke was taken while Dennis was bass fishing with a live eel in the Fire Island Inlet. Striped bass are at the east entrance of Zach's Bay where they dredged a hole. The State Channel from Zach's Bay to the 3rd Wantagh Bridge is also providing bass. The bait to use is live eels. The State Channel is producing on the ebb tide. George says that a super bait is a live bunker, if you can find one. Striped bass are succumbing to the clam chummers at the draw bridges. Fluke and crabs are also excellent prospects.

WANTAGH

Blues are at Jones Inlet, says Frank Hecker of Causeway Bait & Tackle. Some bass are being taken on live eels at night by the bridges. Frank told of a 15 lb. bass being caught on squid by Dam Misalia. Dan was fishing the surf at West End Parking Field #2.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser's Bait & Tackle reported that blues of 8 to 10 lbs. are being trolled about one mile off the beach on tubes and feathers. Troll from the Jones Inlet toward Rockaway Inlet. In the bay, fluke and weaks are in good supply. Live eels and sandworms at night have gotten bass up to 41 lbs. The 41 pounder was taken by Frank Delvecchio.

Mike's Fishing Station reported some fluke are available, though action has slowed a bit. Crabs are available as are a few weakfish.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reported that fluke to nine pounds were caught from the hole where East and Merrick Bays meet. There are lots of small keeper fluke. Snappers are just teasing everyone because of their small size, but wait a couple of weeks.

N.Y. Bight Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie Kessinger of the Star Stream said this past week's fishing was running hot and cold. On Wednesday Richie found the fishing slow, only to return to the same area on Thursday and load up on jumbo blues. Again on Saturday morning, mostly due to poor conditions, the fishing was slow, however, in the afternoon the Star Stream moved

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inshore and jigged fish with good success. On Sunday Richie said he started jigging fish off Long Beach in the morning and followed the school east to finish his day in front of Jones Inlet with an outstanding catch of blues.

Capt. Al Lindroth of the party boat Capt. Al said fishing for blues was good most of this week. Although there were some slow days, the Capt. Al returned with fish every day. On Saturday, Capt. Al described the fishing as fair. On Sunday they fished the area of the Three Sisters Wreck southwest of Angler Grounds and chummed the fish fairly well. On Sunday afternoon the Capt. Al moved inshore off the Jones Beach Tower and topped the day with some excellent jig fishing.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports continued good fluke fishing in Jones Inlet. Also, for those interested, flounders can still be caught in Swift Creek.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Art White of the Point Lookout party boat Angler II said he enjoyed good bluefishing most of this week, with Saturday being his only poor day. Capt. White reported fishing the area southwest of Angler Grounds and also the Cholera Banks most of this week. On Sunday the jig fishing broke wide open outside Jones Inlet and all the boats in the area had a fantastic day with diamond jigs.

Ed Wardle of Ed's Fishing Station reports that fluke fishing continues good at Jones Inlet and also Middle Bay. For the fisherman in Middle Bay, small stripers are available. Fishermen in Swift Creek continue to catch flounder. Ed said that State Channel in the area of Buoys 5 and 7 is beginning to produce the first kingfish of the season. Small stripers are being caught at the Meadowbrook Bridge on clam bellies and also sandworms.

ISLAND PARK

John Esposito of the Commodore Fishing Station reports fluke fishing is holding up well in Reynolds Channel, Debs Inlet and along Rockaway. John said Clem of the party boat Commodore has been fishing mostly off Riis Park, Rockaway, and his passengers have been averaging 6 or 7 keeper size fluke. John also said weakfish have been making a better showing off the Long Beach Hospital. John reported that on Thursday 12 year old Mike Geanetti landed a weak

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Charles Fina poses with a 76 lb. white marlin, caught on live bunker in 135' of water at the H.A. Buoy off Atlantic Beach. Photo by Henning's Fishing Station.

going 5½ lbs. John knew of some small porgies being caught at the east end of Reynolds Channel.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon Miller of Henning's Fishing Station reports fluke fishing as good to excellent. Leon said fluke of mixed sizes can be caught in Reynolds Channel, Debs Inlet and along Rockaway. Small bass continue to respond to clam chum at the Atlantic Beach Bridge. Larger stripers in the 15 to 20 lb. class can be taken along the beach on the ocean side, however, these fish have been responding mostly to fresh bunker. Leon said shark fishermen are having a picnic fishing 155 degrees in 120 feet of water. On Wednesday Leon went fishing with his friend, Rick Farrell of Long Beach. They landed five mako sharks. They also caught and released several others.

JAMAICA BAY

Thelma Noehren of Noehren's Fishing Station reports sand porgies are plentiful from both the North and South Channel Bridges. Snappers can also be caught from these bridges but they are still small. Mrs. Noehren reports that blue claw crabbing is excellent. For the boat fishermen, fluke fishing is good at the Marine Bridge.

Bob Muir of the Canarsie Pier Fishing Station reports crabbing is good. Small snappers are all over the place. The hot spot for porgies is Buoy #16. Both sand and bloodworms work equally well. The fluke being caught off Buschs Cove are mostly shorts but there are some larger ones up to 4 lbs. mixed in. Bob said the Howard Beach area has been yielding nice catches of blue claw crabs.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Rocky Becker of the Tampa IV said this past week's bluefishing was so-so, with good action on some days and poor action on others. However, after this past weekend's fishing Rocky looks for a big upswing in the blue action. The Tampa IV found good action chumming for blues in the area of the Three Sisters Wreck on Saturday. Returning to the same area again on Sunday, they encountered good bluefishing. In the afternoon, Rocky moved inshore off Long Beach and here they jigged all the fish they wanted. Rocky referred to the jigging as a complete slaughter.

Capt. Emil of the charter boat Wooden Shoe II of Gerritsen Beach said he is enjoying the finest kind of fluking. He reports finding his best action off Seabright, Ambrose Channel and Buoy 4. Emil reports landing a fluke of 11 lbs. 10 ozs. and looks forward to continued good action.

Mike's Tackle Shop reports that fluke fishing is good off Seabright and also the Atlantic Highlands. Mike also knew of big weakfish which were caught as a by-product of bluefishing. Mike also said that several tuna were trolled this past week. For those interested in jigging blues, they can load up with jig fish along the Rockaway Beach at dusk.

Harold Anderson of the Bay End Rowboat Station said fluke can be caught off Plum Beach and also Louie's Pier. Small porgies can be caught at Rockaway Inlet. Stripers have been responding to clam bellies at the Roundhouse.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reports surf fishing is still on the slow side. This is not to say that no surf fish are being caught, for this is surely not the truth. It's just a case of being at the right spot at the right time. It seems the area is loaded with bunkers and the blues show up in different areas at different times breaking the surface in a wild frenzy, chasing the bait. For the boat fishermen, Buoy 4 seems to yield the

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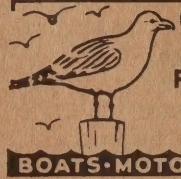

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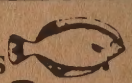

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most blues. Some stripers have been taken at the Verrazano Bridge on the Brooklyn side. Lenny was most pleased to report a big upswing in weakfish activity, mostly in the area of the entrance to Great Kills Harbor.

SANDY HOOK

Joe Julian of Julian Bait Co. reports stripers can still be caught off the Jersey shore in the Sandy Hook area. Joe said most of these fish are in the teen class, although one of 44¼ lbs. was weighed in on Saturday. Fluke fishing remains good off the Ammunition Pier.

North Shore Report

ORIENT

The Port of Egypt Fishing Statin reported that there are blackfish at the lighthouse to 3 lbs. Some fluke are at Truman Beach. Peter told of one fisherman who saw some birds working while he was fluking. He went to the birds and cast a Hopkins lure and caught thirteen blues. He also wound up with five fluke, the largest going 3½ lbs. Some porgies are being caught in this area also. Saturday and Sunday saw big bluefish in the Plum Gut. Fishing with big diamond jigs gets them.

GREENPORT

Art White of the A.P. White Bait Shop reports that there are porgies all over. Some big ones are in the bay, however, in the Long Island Sound they are getting really big porgies off the beach by casting with a fish finder rig with worms or clam. Two to three pound weakfish are being caught at Rose Grove on squid and worms. Blues are in the Plum Gut and are being caught on 8 oz. diamond jigs. These blues are going 6 to 10 lbs., with an occasional 12 to 14 pounder coming aboard. Blues are showing up in the rip at Green Hill by Gardiners Island. Snapper blues come and go around Banning Point.

Capt. Bill Jensen of the open boat Wilhelric is doing well with blackfish at Gull Island.

SOUTHOLD

Mary Morris of the Southold Fishing Station said that they had all of their boats out Saturday and Sunday. Everybody loaded up on porgies. All anglers came in smiling. Clams and worms are the baits. Mary also said that some anglers came in with weakfish.

The Port of Egypt also reported plenty of porgies. Peter Lieblein also told of three brothers, Jim, Gregory and Christian Tentomas, from the Bronx, N.Y. They were fishing for porgies at Buoy #18 when they saw birds just west of it. They thought bluefish would be available and went over to fish. Instead they caught weakfish at 3 to 4 feet below the surface. The final count was 32 weaks going 2 to 3 lbs.

NEW SUFFOLK

Porgies of "hand size" are in the North Race of Robins Island. Over a hundred a boat are taken. Weaks of 1½ to 2 lbs. are being taken at Rose Grove on squid. Some snappers are caught while weakfishing. Kingfish are coming in. These fish are going about 1 lb.

MILLER PLACE

Dick's Sporting Goods called in to report that bluefishing really broke loose this past week. The blues are ranging in size from 3 to 12 lbs., and they're down deep. They are being caught on tins and surgical tubes trolled on wire line. The bluefish action is taking place about one mile off Miller Place. Surfcasters are getting their licks in on the blues, but only at dawn and dusk. Snappers are in thick all over Mt. Sinai Harbor. Porgy fishing remains excellent. Weakfish and fluke are only fair. The action with the big bass that was taking place last week slowed to a snail's pace, but the school sized bass are providing good fun throughout the harbor.

Queensland Cove Tackle Shop reported blues in the very deep water off Buoys #9 and #11. Blue, red and natural surgical tubes trolled deep on wire line gets the fish. Closer in the fish come to the surface at times and at these times chrome Creek Chubs turn the trick.

MOUNT SINAI

Ralph's Fishing Station reported that there are blues of from 6 to 7 lbs. in the deep water outside of the harbor. Red surgical tubes trolled deep will get them. Monday saw some striped bass taken off of White Beach on live eels. Porgies are on the outside while some weakfish are in the harbor.

PORT JEFFERSON

Rick of Plaza Sports says that the trollers are getting blues from 12 to 14 lbs. at Buoy 11B. Stratford Shoals has blues of about 6-8 lbs. Trolling with surge tubes is a standby. Chumming blues with bunker is also producing good catches. Rick weighed in a striped bass for Ronald Adams. It was caught while drifting live eels on Wednesday night. The bass weighed in at 54 lbs. 3 ozs. Porgies are plentiful

Pat Mapleson and George Grosselfinger, of Miller Place, with 550 lbs. of striped bass caught on spinning rods equipped with 17 lb. Stren line. Mackerel chunks and Rebel plugs turned the trick at Rocky Point on the night of July 23. Six of the fish weighed from 40 to 45 lbs., with the smallest going 23 lbs.

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on clams and worms. A few fluke are still being caught, with one a reported 12 lbs.

Capt. John Fischer of the Betty W called in to tell of his fantastic day of bluefishing in Smithtown Bay. John had the Lighthouse Fishing Club aboard. They chummed up the fish and caught so many that they were back at the dock at 12 noon. They counted over 150 fish and then stopped counting. Most of the blues were in the 6 to 8 lb. range, with some going to 12 and 13 lbs. John said that if some of the trollers would take some bait and chum with it, they could also join in on this action. Also, casting rods are great when the fish are on top. It is poor judgement to drive the fish down so you don't know where they are when you can either bait or cast to them.

Capt. Bill Littlefield of the Jib III called in to report that the blues are breaking wide open. On Saturday he had the Smithtown Highway Dept. out and they loaded up on fish. He chummed up these fish of 5 to 9 lbs. On Sunday he went out with some friends and in an hour's time they had trolled up a dozen blues.

SMITHTOWN

John of the Beacon on the Sound said that the trollers were catching 8 to 10 pound blues anywhere from Cranes Neck to Eatons Neck. Most of these fish were caught on red surgical tubes.

NORTHPORT

Ted Bowman says that the blues are fair in the harbor. Those inside the harbor are going from 2 to 4 lbs. while those on the outside are ranging from 4 to 5 lbs. Most of these fish are being caught by chumming. When the fish are down and you have to look for them, surgical tube eels, both large and small, and umbrella rigs are what finds them. Hoocht Skirts are also coming into their own. Porgies are found throughout the bay and the kids are getting plenty of them as well as anyone who goes out after them.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine of the Four Winds Tackle Shop called in to tell of the good striped bass fishing all week. The clam chummers at Eatons Neck were coming in with ten to twenty fish per boat. These bass were averaging about 8 to 15 lbs., with some going as high as 25 lbs. Several large fish were lost when boats ran over lines. Blues are being trolled at Buoy #11B but wire line is a must. These blues are in the 8 to 12 lb. class and are hitting mostly umbrella rigs and Hoochy Skirts. The bunker dunkers were also picking up good sized blues to 12 lbs. in Lloyd Harbor and off Marshall Field. George also said that he has had some people come in with 200-300 porgies. Worms are the best bait.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

"Snowshoe" of Veterans Fishing Station says that there are school stripers of 5 to 10 pounds in the harbor. Two bass of 40 lbs. were taken off Coopers Bluff on mackerel strips. There are some school blues of 2-3 lbs. in the harbor. Outside, off the reed at Bayville Beach, there are larger blues of 8-10 lbs. Porgy fishing is terrific. Some blackfish are mixed in. Snowshoe said that maybe the pollution situation is getting better as he had one fisherman come in with

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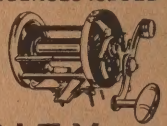

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five butterfish, the first he has seen in twenty years on the North shore.

CITY ISLAND

Ed Rosenberger said that there are porgies all over. Plenty of them to satisfy everyone. The bass fishing is fair with the worm trollers getting mostly school bass under ten pounds. The bluefish action is there with wire line and surge tubes a must.

Capt. Dom Cerbone of the Apache III said that all the City Island boats were fishing Oyster Bay. They caught tons of porgies and also some weakfish came over the side. Dom reported that the blackfishing is still holding up.

Rev. Fr. C. Hallajian, K. Ansushian and B. Movsesian of Bayside, Queens rented a boat in Bayville and fished in Oyster Bay 6/23/73. They caught 140 porgies ranging in weight from ½ to 1 lb. All were caught on nightcrawlers.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

DICK ALLEY

NEW HAVEN

Walt Janeczek at Outdoor Sports reports blues from shore. City Point, West Haven, and Long Wharf just off Rte. 95 are all producing. The method is chunk bait on the bottom. Steve Thomas took one 8¾ lb. Bass are terrific. Branford, Lighthouse breakwater and Morningside are all producing for trollers using a sandworm-spinner combo. Larry Celino racked up 22 on a Sunday afternoon. Weaks are also in at Savin Rock jetty, with the average catch running 6 to 12 fish in a couple of hours. Snappers are small and starting.

MYSTIC

Shaefer's Boat Livery tells of a continuing excellent run of fish of all kinds. Fluke, flats and blackfish are all in good, and blues are coming in from the Race, running from 9 to 17 lbs. The fluke are hitting smelt. Ram Island was a fluke hotspot until some draggers starting working it during the dark hours.

STONINGTON

A 17 lb. 11 oz. fluke headlines the Stonington catches this week and well it should. The catch was made by George Willett at Sugar Reef on a squid while bass fishing. Small blues have moved to this area. Three to four pounders are being taken around the Stonington breakwater. Blacks and flats also continue to hit very well.

OLD SAYBROOK

Russ Fleet of the Connecticut River SBC tells us the big story of the week is bluefish in the Saybrook area. Russ and Pat Abate took a dozen in an evening on live eels, and popping plugs. All were between 8 and 11 pounds. The waters off Clinton produced for Joe Bukowski who took a dozen to 9 lbs. Russ passed on the info from Wetmore's Marina in Westbrook that bluefishing is hot in that area too. Bass, too, are hitting well in Westbrook waters with several fish up to a top of 49 lbs., by Joe Rich of Meriden on a live eel.

STRATFORD

At the Housatonic Marina, bluefish are mainly outside, with some surface action. Trollers and bunker fishermen are doing well in deeper waters, and bass, too, are still hitting well, with fish to 25 lbs. weighed in over the weekend. Weaks are improving daily in the sandy spots, with Pleasure Beach in Bridgeport producing well over the weekend. Porgies are slowing a bit and are spotty, probably due to the blues.

WATERFORD

Fishing excellent according to Hillyer's Bait & Tackle here. Fluke are tops, with bass seemingly everywhere. Blues are in the Race, and bottom fish continue great. Porgies are just beginning to build here.

BRIDGEPORT

Bunker chunks fished on the bottom are paying off for bluefish. Top water action has slowed down. Weakfish, 13 of them, were weighed in by Irene Filippo. She took them at Manresa on a sandworm. Bluefish trollers are collecting at the Dumping Grounds and around Buoy 18. Snappers have moved into South Benson Harbor.

Alex Bish at Cedar Creek Marina was watching a man walk up the dock with a blue while he was talking to me. Some anglers are doing well about a mile south of Penfield Reef. While a few trollers are scoring, the real fishing is going to fishermen fishing bunker chunks.

Ted Ferrante at Ted's Bait tells us Bridgeport Harbor is red hot. Baitfishing is the ticket here, with only a few fish going to the triple rigs. Kosta Bruno picked up eleven fish to 11 lbs. in an evening's fishing. Bass fishing has slowed, with only a few fish showing at Breezy Point. Porgies are still in too.

MILFORD

Roy Witkoff took a 43 lb. bass at Charles Island on a live bunker. Vin Ciulla at the Sportsman's Rendezvous reported this as the biggest one this week. Vin's son was fishing with Jerry Fusi, and they found one school of weaks, bass, and blues all mixed near Point Lookout. The 13 year olds had a ball. Six feet, 11½ inches of brown shark, weighing 185 lbs., was picked up within a hundred feet of shore. Vin tells of a big pack out off Milford, with many anglers hooking up but failing to land their fish. Vin did some checking, and finds that this breed of shark travels in packs of from 20 to 50.

WESTCHESTER

Dan Catalano at Point Tackle in Rye tells of Sean O'Shea, a young man who took a 42 pounder off shore on a bunker. The yellow Big Daddy paid off for several fish from 8 to 12 pounds, and red surgical tubes are also paying off. Snappers are all along

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the inside of Milton Harbor. Weakfish are extremely thick. Bob Anacarrico was another 40 lb. fish angler this week.

Dan tells us that the Westchester groups are also organizing to lobby against the bunker boats, so anyone interested can contact him.

At Camerons blues and bass steal the limelight, with the most productive waters being arounf Fort Slocum. A 45 pounder was weighed in during the week by Chris Calabro. Weakfish are thick around Glen Island Casino. Blues are thick among the bunkers between the two docks at Fort Slocum. Porgies are now being measured by the pound instead of counted, and fluke are still hitting too. The sea robins are the biggest ever.

In Mamaroneck, Fred Archer of the fishing station here tells us the only guys complaining about the blues are the die-hard bass men. Cut bait fished right near the beaches is paying off with plenty of blues and an occasional good bass. Plug fishing is improving slowly. Porgies are still thick, and weaks are also improving daily.

GREENWICH

Biggest blue to reach our ears this year was weighed in at the Sportsman's Den here. The 19¾ lb. chopper was caught by fifteen year old Tom Chimblo on a bunker chunk at Greenwich Point. Cut baits are producing well for both blues and bass in this area, with the bluefish also hitting at Captains Island. Schoolies are hitting plugs both in the cove and at the point.

John Minnitti, skipper of the Delmar, sailing from Greenwich every day, is still finding excellent blackfish. They're plentiful, and they average 5 and 6 lbs. Next week, John will be starting night trips for blues on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Delmar will leave the dock at 7:00 PM. A few have already been picked up by daytime anglers.

STAMFORD

The biggest bass of the week was weighed in at Jack's Bait & Tackle. The angler was Pete Bomane of Stamford. He took the fish near Bowers Island off Byram, and it scaled 52 lbs. That's another Schaefer pin winner. Jack tells of lots of blues coming from the areas around Captains Island, Buoy 24C, and 11B, with both trollers and bunker dunkers scoring well. Porgies are still hitting, and blacks have made a surprising comeback, says Jack.

ROWAYTON

Burt Van Sciver at the Bait Shop advises that his customers have also been doing well around Great Captains Island, with Ragmops and surgical tubes the top lures. Guy Wetmore found a school of bass at Copps Island in the dark hours, and he and his spouse caught 12, releasing all but 3, on drifted sandworms.

NORWALK

11B, 24C, Cranes Neck, the Hospital, all are paying off for bluefishermen, says Rick Mola. Vin Mola used the famed triple rig to take 54 in an afternoon the other day. Rick adds that school bass are plentiful in waters all around the Norwalk Islands, and weakfish are hitting at Peach Island. Bunker chunks continue to pay off for blues in Connecticut waters too, with many of the fish going 10 to 12 lbs.

Rita Utz at Four Winds continues to receive some good reports both on bass and on blues, with some added weakfishing.

Gloria Borges at the Tackle Box proudly told how hubby, Tom, won the Tri-City Bass Club Derby last weekend. He did it with a 38½ pounder, to give the Norwalk Striped Bass Club the final leg on the trophy. Her sister, Debbie Gonzales, who's visiting, fished for weaks at Peach Island and did well. Blues are thick from 11B to Cranes Neck, so it should be a good fishing weekend wherever we go. A 9 lb. 4 oz. chopper was weighed in by John Romano. It was one of many taken trolling just outside the Norwalk Islands.

MERIDEN

Float N' Sinker Tackle Shop reports great fishing at the Race, with the fish running 8 to 12 lbs. Marc Nobert, partner in the shop, took 20 in an evening on diamond jigs and No-Alibi rigs. Marc reports the fish hitting the surface early this season, with a few 30 to 45 minute bonanzas already having taken place. Meriden is the headquarters of Central Connecticut Striper Club which always does so well in the R.J. Schaefer Salt Water Fishing Contest. They fish the Rhode Island shore as well as waters off New London and New Haven. Marc's partner, Bob Raby, took a 30 pound fish at Watch Hill on mackerel. New Haven Harbor has been producing blues and weaks for Meriden and Hartford anglers.

WESTPORT

Ed Boland at the Westport Tackle Shop reports some good bluefishing

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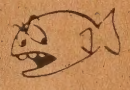

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around Cockenoe Island on bunker chunks. Bass men have been only fair, but weakfishing is excellent as the blues pack them in. There's been some action for trollers around Buoy 24, and Can #1. The Tri-Fin is still the hottest lure going in these waters, with the Ragmop running a close second.

COOL IT is the word in the bunker boat dispute. With one hearing ended, and another due to begin in a few weeks, we don't need any more confrontations between sportfishermen and the bunker boats. A new line has been established along the Fairfield County shore. Running west to east, it begins at Greens Ledge Light, goes to Buoy 24B, and from there to Penfield Light. From Penfield, it moves to Buoy 20, on to Charles Island, then to Palm Point. AVOID ANY HASSLE WITH THE BUNKER BOATS. If you see them in violation, report the violation to the Police Department where the violation occurs. Also report it to Theodore Bampton of the Dept. of Environmental Protection, (203) 566-4522 or 566-4523. Our thanks go to those who took the time to testify at the hearing. To those who know they should have testified and didn't: You people have to live with your own conscience.

We know we're right in this problem, and we can win. Let's do it with a little class.

NEW JERSEY

PETE BARRETT

SANDY HOOK

Julian's Sport Shop reported striper fishing still holding good, with most catches from 10 to 30 pounds. Jim Hilton caught three stripers of 16, 28 and 13½ lbs. on tubes, while Don Vitolo had two 15 pounders on bunker spoons. Most action has been off the Golf Ball. Fluke fishing is good at the Ammo Pier, and weakfish are now showing at Flynn's Knoll.

Bill at Henjo's Dock called the fluke fishing fair, but for those regulars who fish hard, the fluking can be good. George Drews of Nutley caught 57 fluke on Friday with a few of them weighing 5 to 6 pounds. Crabbing is good, too, reports Bill.

SEABRIGHT

Kay at Chris's Landing said the typical catch of crabs was 1 bushel per boat. Fluke fanciers are getting between 9 and 22 fish from 1½ to 3 pounds.

Armand at Giglio's called the striper fishing GREAT for sandwormers working the jetties from Monmouth Beach to Sandy Hook. Largest striper was Harry Lichtenstein's which weighed 27 pounds. Blues have been spotty along the beach, but George Moss boated a 15 pounder in his cartopper, along with six bass. Fluke action continues good with most of the fish caught on squid and sand eels right in the wash.

LONG BRANCH

The jetties around Long Branch have been giving up a few bass to wormers and pluggers, according to Frank's Bait & Tackle. Paul Macaluso caught a 26 pounder on clams. Mick Carr and Eddie Lynn had stripers from 3 to 5 lbs. on Red Fins. Frank said the fluking is still good but he doesn't know what happened to the weaks and blues.

NOTICE

Due to the time involved in processing the great volume of photographs received each week at the editorial offices, no photograph will be returned unless it is accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

HUDSON RIVER

PETE BARRETT

KINGSTON

Smallmouth fishing remains about the same, according to Roy's Bait & Tackle. Roundout Creek has been giving up some nice catches on night crawlers and shiners.

WAPPINGERS FALLS

Tom Sheffield at the B & M Bait Shop reported good largemouth bass fishing. Bruce Miller of Poughkeepsie had three bass up to 3½ pounds, caught on rubber worms. Ed Delise took some nice trout on nightcrawlers at Wappingers Lake. His five fish ranged from 11-15 inches. Blue gills are hitting fantastically. A party of six people caught over 300 blue gills in one day.

LOWER HUDSON

From Verplanck to Bayonne the fish that was most plentiful was the white perch. Crabbing is reaching its August peak all along the shoreline. Snapper blues should arrive any time now. At Robbins Reef and the Statue of Liberty, roaming schools of blues of 4 to 5 lbs. are hitting spoons, tubes and bucktails.

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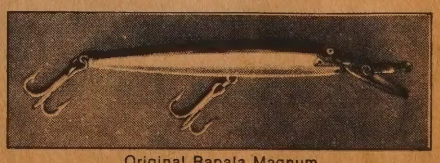

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